ROM February 1974

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ROM is published 11 times each year by the Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2C6

Noah Torno, M.B.E.
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Editor: Christina Jones, 928-4972
Designer: Karin Loconte

This publication is printed on stock containing 25% de-inked, recycled fibre.

Cover: Anonymous. **Courtship in the Garden,** 19th century. Paper cutting on velvet. Private collection. From the *People's Art: Naïve Art in Canada* exhibition.

Chairman's Newsletter

Dear Member:

With the recent excitement about Comet Kohoutek, we have had a surge of interest in our own McLaughlin Planetarium. In fact, in the month of November, some 3,400 visitors attended the Planetarium Theatre of the Stars each week, an increase of over 75% for the same period last year. I have asked Dr. H. C. King, the Curator, for some information about the history and purpose of the Planetarium. I am very happy to pass this information along to you.

The establishment of a major planetarium had been the dream of the late Colonel R. S. McLaughlin for over twenty years. Through his generosity the McLaughlin Planetarium of the Royal Ontario Museum opened in 1968. The initial cost was approximately $2,000,000.

The primary purpose of a planetarium is educational. Although the science of astronomy dates back to Babylonian times, for many years only those who devoted a life-time to the study of the subject had a comprehensive understanding of the skies. Today, in contrast, several hundred people at a time can sit in comfort beneath an artificial sky and have its wonders described in clear, straight-forward terms. The night sky can be reproduced with such remarkable realism that spectators feel they are sitting outdoors on the clearest of nights. Some three thousand stars shine overhead and the Milky Way spans the sky like a giant bridge of pearly light. At the touch of a switch the auditorium is transformed into a theatre of the skies in which the sun, moon, planets and stars are the actors, the heavens the stage.

The giant Zeiss Jena projector, shaped like a dumb-bell, contains nearly 115 individual lens systems. The whole programme is operated by remote control from a console near the north wall of the Theatre. Other projectors provide the various diagrams used in the show, including astronomical objects, buildings and trees.

Visitors to the Planetarium's display area. M. Giovinazzo, ROM, McLaughlin Planetarium

One of the more recent innovations has been the inclusion of pre-recorded commentaries and sound effects by use of sound mixing equipment, installed through the generosity of Colonel McLaughlin's bequest to the Museum.

While the Theatre of the Stars is the centre of the Planetarium, the building also includes exhibits and displays to supplement the demonstrations in the Theatre. A Reference Library and information centre, open to the public on Saturdays, contains books on astronomy, star charts, star atlases, moon maps and astronomical photographs. On the lower level a lecture room, with seating capacity for 180 people, is available for meetings, courses and special lectures. An optical workshop operated by the Toronto Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada is also located on the lower level. Near the main entrance a sales desk offers literature on astronomy to suit almost every interest. And the offices of the astronomers and staff, who make it all possible, are tucked away in the recesses of the main floor.

Colonel McLaughlin died in 1972 at the age of 100. His vision and his commitment in providing funds for the construction of the Planetarium and for its continued endowment resulted in the largest single gift that the Museum has ever received. The Planetarium, named in his honour, continues to provide a memorial to one of the outstanding Canadians of this century.

Noah Torno,
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Spotlight

Gems and Minerals

As the Mineralogy Department's collections continue to grow, a selection of more than fifty-five spectacular mineral specimens, recently acquired by the department, have been placed on display in the Mineralogy Gallery. Each is either an example of exceptionally well developed crystals, or of unusual crystal growth. Included in the display are three rather interesting gemstones with an example of the natural specimen for comparison.

The mineral specimens, which have come from a variety of localities around the world, were acquired as donations, as purchases by the Mineralogy Department's Specimen Fund or the ROM Special Purchase Fund, and, in one case, through a grant made by the Oshawa Rock and Mineral Club.

New Look for '74

Punch and Other Puppets was the last display in Exhibition Hall as you now know it. When the exhibit closed in January, ROM's Design Department was set to go on a whole new look, new approach to the area.

Exhibition Hall dates back to 1960 when the first major exhibition — *Impact,* a display of posters from 48 countries — opened. In the fourteen years since, it has seen a number and a variety of exhibitions.

However, as ROM continues to grow, more space for major exhibitions is required. Wide-open space is the concept.

The new plans, which eliminate the central wall and stairways, will increase display area by some 40%. The ceiling in the lower level will be raised to a new 10′ height, adding to the spacious feeling and allowing for the display of much taller objects. Four staircases, one in each corner, will lead to the mezzanine level which will be the full width of Exhibition Hall and nearly full-length. The new mezzanine will be supported by pillars, and cement and steel flooring, adding the possibility of displaying much larger and heavier objects on this level. A new lighting system will provide more flexibility in highlighting of objects on display.

Thus, the new Hall will provide more space for displays, more flexibility in the types of exhibits possible, better lighting for objects, freer movement for the visitor and, also for the visitor, more comfort — it will be climatically controlled.

On April 9, 1974, a major exhibition of *Mughal Miniatures* will be the first to open to the public in the new look Exhibition Hall.

Love Canadiana Style

The courting habits of early Canadians is the theme of a St. Valentine's Day party at ROM's Canadiana galleries. There will be music and a buffet supper. Refreshments will be available. For an entertaining and informative evening, for love and romance early Canadian style, the place to be is the Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building at 14 Queen's Park Crescent West. The date to remember is Thursday, February 14, 1974 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $7.50 per person and are limited. To reserve yours, phone 928-6590 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. any weekday after February 1.

Coloured aquatint. **Minuets of the Canadians,** by G. Heriot, J. C. Stadler. From the Canadiana collections

Preview

February

Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park, Toronto M5S 2C6

February 1974

People's Art: Naïve Art in Canada
Feb. 1 to March 10
A major exhibition of oils, watercolours, sculptures and a variety of Primitive, Naïve, Folk, and Popular Scene in Canada. Arranged to present several aspects of the diversity of Canadian life. From the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa. Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building. Special tours Wednesday, February 13 and Wednesday, February 27 at 12:15 p.m.

Canadian Antiques Feb. 5 to March 10
Early Canadian decorative arts: treen, glass, graphics, pottery and silver from the Canadiana collections. Third Floor Rotunda.

Stamps to Feb. 28
Canadian Booklet Stamps, Part 1. Stamp Corner, Lower Rotunda.

Images d'une France to Feb. 17
Colour prints by French photographer André Martin providing a glimpse of the natural beauty and life in rural France. Lower Rotunda.

The Comet Connection to Feb. 24
A planetarium show discussing and explaining comets and their place in the solar system. Theatre of the Stars, McLaughlin Planetarium.

Theatre of the Stars Show Times
Tuesday to Friday: 3, 8 p.m.
Saturday: 2, 3:30, 7:30, 9 p.m.
Sunday: 2, 3:30, 5, 7:30 p.m.
Holidays: 2, 3:30 p.m.
Shows last about 50 minutes. Children under the age of six are not admitted to the Theatre.

Cover: **Commode,** butternut, Quebec, 18th century. **Armchair,** maple, 'Os de mouton' style, Louis XIII, Quebec, ca. 1730-60. From the *Canadian Antiques* exhibition.

Pile Carpet, Chinese early 18th century.
A gift of a group of private donors in memory of Harold B. Burnham.

Harvest '73 to March 31
A selection of items acquired by the Textile Department during 1973 including a special group of Canadian Textiles in memory of Harold B. Burnham, acquired through the generosity of his friends. Textile Gallery. Tours Tuesdays at 2.

Films

Sunday Evening Films to March 17
Sundays at 7, **Free,** ROM Theatre.
February
3 The Elephant Will Never Forget
The Private Life of the Large White Cabbage Butterfly
The Perception of Life
10 Walking
What on Earth?
Grass: A Nation's Battle for Survival
17 One, Two, Three
Signals for Survival
24 The Image
The Art of the Conservator

Family Films to March 17, Sundays at 2:30, **free with Museum admission,** ROM Theatre.
February
3 Fly Geese Fly
Teiva — A Boy Prepares for Manhood
Circle of the Sun
10 Walking
What on Earth?
Grass: A Nation's Battle for Survival
17 One, Two, Three
Signals for Survival
24 Nomads of the Jungle
Legend of the Raven
Angotee: Story of an Eskimo Boy

ROM presents NFB to March 25, Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. **Free,** ROM Theatre.
February
6 Question of Immunity
Steeltown
13 Offshore
Tchou Tchou
Tout Ecartille
The Ungrateful Land

20 Foresters
The Sloane Affair
27 A Special Place
Where There's Smoke
Metadata
Origami
The Second Arctic Winter Games

Lectures

Oceanography
Thursdays at 8:30 p.m. ROM Theatre, Free
A series of illustrated lectures marking the 100th anniversary of Oceanography.
February 7
Oil on Troubled Waters: Petroleum or Protein, by Dr. David Scarratt, Research Scientist of the Fisheries Research Board of Environment Canada, St. Andrews, New Brunswick.
February 14
Living and Working Underwater with Coral Reef Fishes and Plants, by Dr. Sylvia A. Earle of the Museum of Natural History, Los Angeles.
February 21
The Case Against Continental Drift, by Dr. A. A. Meyerhoff of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Tulsa.
February 28
Heat Transport and Climatic Change in Arctic and Sub-Arctic Seas, by Dr. M. J. Dunbar of the Marine Sciences Centre at McGill University.
March 7
A Decade of Underwater Archaeology in the Mediterranean Sea, by Dr. D. Owen of the University Museum, University of Pennsylvania.

The Decipherment of Meroitic Thurs., Feb. 14 at 4:30 p.m. Planetarium Lecture Room, Free
An illustrated lecture by Dr. N. B. Millet, Curator of ROM's Egyptian Department. Sponsored by the Toronto Society of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Scene from *Study for a Song in the Distance,* dancer Patricia Beatty.

Miscellaneous

Toronto Dance Theatre Wednesdays, Feb. 20 and 27 at 5:30 p.m. Armour Court, Free
The Toronto Dance Theatre, which has just returned from a Canadian tour, will present two programmes of modern dance. Founded in 1968, it has grown to be the foremost modern dance company in Canada and has had a busy tour schedule both at home and abroad. Seating for performances limited to 200.

ROM Public Hours, 100 Queen's Park
Tuesday to Saturday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday: 1 to 9 p.m.
Monday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Adult admission 50 cents, free after 5 p.m. Accompanied children free. Senior citizens and students with identification free.

ROM Libraries
The Reference Library on the second level is open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Astronomical Library, McLaughlin Planetarium, Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ROM Restaurants
A comfortable restaurant serving hot lunches and snacks is located on the main floor by the Armour Court and is open until 8 p.m. The Dinosaur Den Children's cafeteria, on the Lower Level, closes at 4 p.m.

Members' Lounge
A quiet licensed lounge, located down the stairs by the main restaurant, is available to all members of the Museum. Mondays from 12 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays to Fridays 12 to 9 p.m.

Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building
14 Queen's Park Cres. West
Monday to Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Information
Museum: 928-3690 Planetarium: 928-8550

ROM Shops
Prints and more prints, that's the main feature in ROM's Book and Gift Shop this month. The recently arrived stock includes Egyptian, Chinese, Indian, Korean, Persian miniature and European prints.

Book and Gift Shop Hours
Tuesday to Thursday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday, Saturday, Monday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ROM Membership
Membership in the Museum is a rewarding experience. For $25 annually (individual), or $40 (family with two cards), a member receives free admission, use of the licensed Members' Lounge, a 10% discount on purchases of over $2.00 at the three ROM Shops, invitations to preview parties, *ROM* the monthly publication of Museum events and *Rotunda* the illustrated quarterly magazine. For residents outside metropolitan Toronto, individual annual membership is $15.
Lifetime membership in the Museum is also invited as follows:
Life: $500
Fellow: $1,000
Benefactor: $2,500
Endowment: $5,000
Patron: $10,000
Fellow, Benefactor, Endowment and Patron categories are income tax deductible.
Call 928-3704 or write to the Membership Office.

Tours

ROM Gallery Tours
Weekdays, except holidays. Free with Museum Admission.

Feb.	at 12:15	at 2
1	Arts of India	English Porcelain
4	Japanese Art	Chinese Arts
5	Gemstones	Harvest '73
6	Mesopotamia and Iran	Enigma of the Etruscans
7	18th Century, Age of Elegance	Planetarium
8	Native Peoples of Canada	Faces of Ancient Rome
11	Chinese Tomb Figurines	Buddhist Art
12	19th Century Rooms	Harvest '73
13	Stories in Greek Vases	Chinese Porcelain
14	Populating the Americas	Planetarium
15	Sculpture of Ancient Egypt	French Furniture — Medieval to 19th Century
18	English Period Rooms	Chinese Arts
19	Death Among the Egyptians	Harvest '73
20	Survival of the Fittest	The Earth's Treasures
21	Romance of Jade	Planetarium
22	European Porcelain	Evolution of Mammals
25	Chinese Wall Paintings	Islamic Art
26	Ancient Greece	Harvest '73
27	Medieval Europe	General Tour
28	Windows on Nature's World	Planetarium

Canadiana Tours
Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. in the Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building.
February
6 The French Connection
13 People's Art: Naïve Art in Canada
20 Oven to Table
27 People's Art: Naïve Art in Canada

Planetarium Tours
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 p.m. in the McLaughlin Planetarium.

Inside ROM

From Bird Cages to Light Bulbs

Who hangs the wallpaper in ROM's room settings? Who dusts the artifacts? Where do the glass shelves come from? How are specimens mounted? Who decorates ROM's annual Christmas tree?

Questions you may never have given much thought to. Nevertheless, the answers are all vital to the day-to-day operation of the Museum. And they represent only a few of the multitude of questions and problems that arise daily in ROM's various departments. For the answers ROM staff members dial the well known 3662 — at the other end of the line is the Preparators Department.

What is a Preparator? By definition he is one who makes preparations for . . . In reality he is a painter, a carpenter, a mechanic, an artist, a diplomat. He is reliable and he is dextrous. There are ten such men, plus Ivan Lindsay, department head, in ROM's Preparators Department.

In 1966 the Preparators unpacked and mounted 161 Japanese art treasures. The Japanese art exhibition was the largest ever to come to ROM, requiring three fifty-foot trailers for its transportation, and considerable care in its handling.

In 1968 this group was responsible for picking up, packing, unpacking, repacking and returning to their owners all the art objects for the "Prized Possession from Private Homes" exhibition. The over 1200 articles included furniture such as a 1760 cabinet which measured 71″ high by 51″, an 18th century armchair and a commode. 16th and 17th century paintings; sculptures dating back to the 14th century, prints, books, watches and clocks, textiles, glassware,

Installation of the rocket in the McLaughlin Planetarium, second level entrance from Museum.

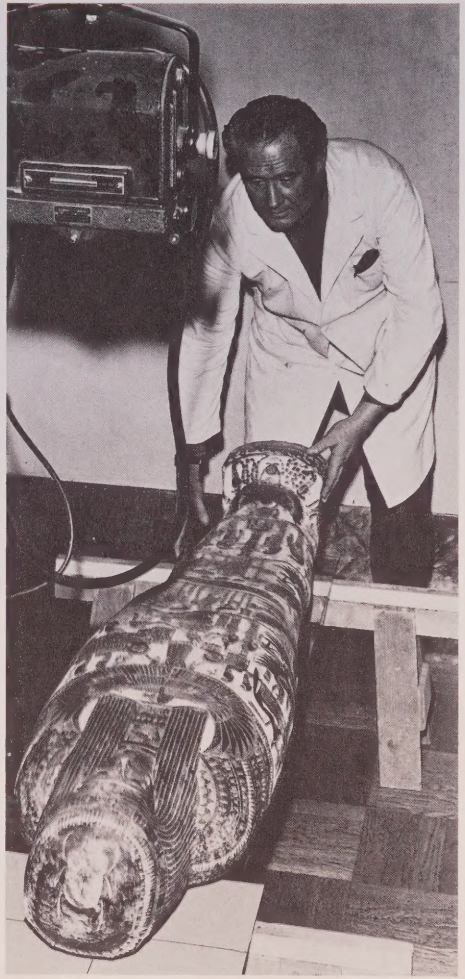
porcelain, silver, pewter, arms and armour, jade and Canadiana objects were all involved. Of course, each item required specialized precautions.

It was the same department that devised the mounts for the objects and mounted them in their display cases for the exhibition. The entire job was carried out with skill and care and no breakage.

For the 1972 Chinese and Japanese exhibition, they were called on again. The Japanese artifacts from the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria were unpacked and mounted by the Preparators. It was they who devised the boxes and packing for ROM's Chinese artifacts which were to be transported by rail to Montreal and, after an exhibition there, on to Victoria. A ROM preparator went to Montreal for the unpacking and packing there, and later to Victoria to repack the Chinese artifacts for their return journey to ROM.

ROM now has three Museumobiles touring the province. Each thirty-five foot vehicle can be driven into a community, the doors opened — and it is ready to receive visitors. Preparators arranged for the purchase and equipping of the mobile museums, including a generator for heating and air conditioning requiring no outside energy source. Also, they devised the mounts for specimens and artifacts that would have to withstand considerable jarring over rough roads.

At one point, the department managed to lower some five- to six-foot bird cages from the Planetarium roof for the Ornithology department. They also maintain overhead lighting for displays in the Museum; paint, wax and stain all new cases, made by the Carpenters Shop, for use in galleries, offices and laboratories. They manufacture 99% of all plastic and metal mounts used throughout the Museum including cutting and polishing glass display shelves.



Whenever an object is to be photographed, in ROM's Photography department, at a TV studio or by outside people requiring the opening of a display case, a preparator is on hand. It is this department only that is covered by the Museum's insurance policy for the handling of artifacts and specimens.

Large numbers of book orders and vast quantities of mail, parcels and packages go from ROM each week to the post office. Guess who takes them? They have lifted a 386-pound meteorite for display, and climbed the some fifteen feet up to the top of ROM's Christmas tree in Armour Court to string it with lights.

The skill of the Preparators is evident from the time you turn down University Avenue, from Bloor, towards the Museum's main entrance. Mounts, lighting, backdrops and shelving, from the outside cases and throughout the Museum, all speak for themselves.

Not a day goes by where at least one of ROM's departments does not send out a cry for help to solve a problem or answer a question. And the Preparators are always there, ready and capable.

C.J.

Preparing to X-ray a mummy for the Egyptian Department.

New Members of the Royal Ontario Museum

Life Member

Mrs. E. A. Baillie

Annual Members

M. Armour
Dr. W. J. Auger
Mrs. J. Barrett
Mr. A. W. Billes
Miss S. Blakeman
Mr. V. Bortolussi
Mr. W. Boyd
Mrs. R. Boyer
Dr. & Mrs. J. L. Brayley
Mr. H. Brownie
Mr. & Mrs. D. Bryson
Mr. & Mrs. M. Burston
Canadiana Galleries
Mr. & Mrs. R. Dack
Miss D. J. Day
R. M. Eden
Mr. & Mrs. B. Edward
Mrs. L. B. Edwards
Mr. D. Enzensberger
Mr. G. W. Fisher
Mrs. J. J. Forster
Mr. R. Gage
Mrs. M. Garbig
Mr. M. Gaasenbeek
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Mrs. J. P. Henniger
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Mrs. J. C. Jenkins
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Mr. & Mrs. P. G. White

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100 Queen's Park, Toronto M5S 2C6